



**Livestock and Seed Program
Audit, Review, and Compliance Branch
Quality System Audit Report**

AUDIT INFORMATION

Applicant Name:	Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC)
Est. Number:	N/A
Physical Address:	121 N. Jefferson Street, Jackson, MS 39201
Mailing Address:	P.O. Box 1609, Jackson, MS 39215
Contact & Title:	Kevin Riggins
E-mail Address:	Kevin@mdac.state.ms.us
Phone Number:	601 359 1158
Auditor(s):	Darrell Wilson
Program:	USDA National Organic Program (NOP)
Audit Date(s):	February 22-23, 2006
Audit Identifier:	NP6053OOA
Action Required:	Yes
Audit Type:	Annual Update
Audit Objective:	To determine the compliance of the company's information to the requirements of the audit criteria.
Audit Criteria:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7 CFR Part 205.510, National Organic Program; Final Rule, dated December 21, 2000; Amended November 3, 2003
Audit Scope:	MDAC 2005 NOP Annual Report
Location(s) Audited:	Desk

Information submitted indicates that Kevin Riggins is the primary contact person.

Information submitted by MDAC for the 2005 annual update review included:

- List of certified operations – 6 farms, all crops;
- Certificates for all certified operations;
- List of inspectors – 7;
- Conflict of interest acknowledgements for all staff and inspectors;
- Annual Program Review;
- Training record;
- Qualifications for personnel;
- Statement for employee performance evaluations;
- Inspection Report for Pearl River Blue Berry Farm;
- MDAC Organic Certification Quality Manual (includes fees charged); and
- Copies of organic plans



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FINDINGS

Procedures and records reviewed verified that MDAC is currently operating in compliance to the requirements of the audit criteria with the exception of the non-compliance identified below. One minor non-compliance was identified during the review.

NP605300A.NC1 – Minor – NOP §205.510 (a)(1) requires, “An accredited certifying agent must submit annually to the Administrator...A complete and accurate update of information submitted pursuant to §§ 205.503 and 205.504.”

- a) §205.504 (a)(2) The name and position description of all personnel to be used in the certification operation...” *The information submitted for review included only a list of the inspectors. A list of staff members and any other positions involved with the certification process were not submitted.*
- b) §205.504 (a)(3) states, “A description of the qualifications, including experience, training, and education in agriculture, organic production, and organic handling, for: (i) Each inspector to be used by the applicant and (ii) Each person to be designated by the applicant to review or evaluate applications for certification.” *Resumes submitted for Charles Wilson, Blue King Robinson and Rita Martinson do not indicate any organic experience or training in organic production.*
- c) §205.504 (c)(2) requires A conflict of interest disclosure report for all persons who review applications for certification, perform on-site inspections, review certification documents, evaluate qualifications for certification, make recommendations concerning certification, or make certification decisions and all parties responsibly connected to the certifying agent. The report must identify any food- or agriculture-related business interests, including business interests of immediate family members that cause a conflict of interest. *Conflict of Interest Disclosure statements were not included for inspector Randy Boyle or the staff and committee members.*